

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

This Document contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States, within the meaning of Title 18, Sections 793 and 794, of the U.S. Code, as amended. Its transmission or revelation of its contents to or receipt by an unauthorized person is prohibited by law. The reproduction of this form is prohibited.

SECRET/CONTROL - US OFFICIALS ONLY
SECURITY INFORMATION

25X1A

COUNTRY	USSR (Latvian SSR)	REPORT NO.	[REDACTED]
SUBJECT	Port of Lepaya	DATE DISTR.	15 April 1953
		NO. OF PAGES	4
DATE OF INFO.	[REDACTED] 25X1C	REQUIREMENT NO.	RD
PLACE ACQUIRED	[REDACTED] 25X1A	REFERENCES	25X1X

1. In August 1951, a single vessel, similar in appearance to the ex-German type 36A, was observed at sea off Lepaya.
2. During summer 1951, the normal number of naval vessels moored in Lepaya Merchant Harbor was five to eight minesweepers (in the Winter Harbor), five to ten BOs (opposite the Customs House), approximately five MTBs, several MOs, and a few naval tugs moored at the Customs House quay.
3. During autumn 1951, the number of BOs and MTBs increased to approximately 15 of each. During the winter 1951-1952, the number decreased to approximately five of each.
4. Since about April 1952, the number of BOs and MTBs in Lepaya Merchant Harbor again increased to approximately 15 of each. These craft often go to sea on maneuvers, leaving the Merchant Harbor empty.
5. In May 1952, a vessel in appearance similar to the LENINGRAD class was observed at anchor in the outer harbor of Lepaya.
6. The number of warships in the Naval Harbor is not known.
7. Submarines are known to be based in the Naval Harbor, but they are never seen in the Merchant Harbor. Single submarines, and convoys of three to four, can be observed leaving and entering port when the weather is good; they have never been observed leaving during bad weather. On some occasions convoys of five to seven submarines were observed leaving port. Although they sometimes leave port together with other naval vessels, they are not usually escorted.
8. At sea, submarines have only been observed in the sea areas around N56-31, E20-42 and N56-31, E20-30. They have not been observed in other sea areas.

SECRET/CONTROL - US OFFICIALS ONLY

STATE	X	ARMY	X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	FBI		AEC						
-------	---	------	---	------	---	-----	---	-----	--	-----	--	--	--	--	--	--

(Note: Washington Distribution Indicated By "X", Field Distribution By "#")

356

SECRET/CONTROL - US OFFICIALS ONLY

25X1A

-2-

Legend to Sketch of Port of Lepaya

1. The area shown by dotted circle is where naval ships are frequently at anchor.
2. Approximate position of mooring buoy to which the KIROV and another warship similar to the KIROV are frequently moored. The latter has been in Lepaya off and on ever since the fleet maneuvers in the summer of 1951.
3. Steel swing bridge across the Naval Harbor Canal.
4. Approximate area of civilian airfield at which aircraft on the Riga-to-Lepaya route land.
5. Northern and southern entrances to port of Lepaya, which are now permanently closed to shipping. In the entrances are buoys to which steel nets are
6. believed to be attached.
7. Central entrance to port of Lepaya, which is used by all shipping, including fishing boats.
8. Control post and signal station.
9. Mooring buoy to which a patrol boat (okhotnik) is always moored.
10. Usually a MO (Malenkiy Okhotnik-Small Hunter), but occasionally also a BO (Bolshoy Okhotnik-Big Hunter), is moored to the mooring buoy mentioned in (9) above.
11. Quay in Free Port to which a submarine rescue ship is always moored. It has not been observed that this vessel has been to sea during the last four years.
12. Area in Winter Harbor where the Frontier Guard vessel ZORKIY and a similar ship are usually moored. According to watermen, the ZORKIY was handed over in May or June 1952 to the Soviet Navy and is due to sail for Leningrad, where she will be based in future.
13. Point where water-barges and fishing vessels take on fresh water.
14. Area where buoys, wire, and other navigational markers are stored in the open.
15. Concrete warehouse, approximately 150 meters long, 30 meters wide, and one story high. It was completed in the spring of 1952 and up to June 1952 was still empty.
16. Area in which 15 to 20 antiaircraft guns are stationed. These are mounted on four-wheel carts. The gun crew wear a uniform with black service flash. Antiaircraft guns have not been observed anywhere else in Lepaya.
17. Area in Winter Harbor where five to six minesweepers are moored. These are believed to be the ex-German M-40 class and one of them of the ex-German M-16 class. The latter shifts frequently around the port of Lepaya but has never been seen going to sea. There are also two vessels, believed to be of the ex-German F-7 class, moored in this area.
18. Coal dump. Coal arrives from time to time by Soviet merchant ship.
19. Area in which 10 to 15 BOs, belonging to the Soviet Navy, are usually moored. These vessels usually are lying three abreast. A naval tug is also frequently moored just ahead of the BOs, slightly inside the Winter Harbor.

SECRET/CONTROL - US OFFICIALS ONLY

SECRET/CONTROL - US OFFICIALS ONLY

-3-

20. Area in which seven to ten MTBs, belonging to the Soviet Navy, are moored. The MTBs appear to be of the ex-US ELCO class and the ex-US HIGGINS class, and have torpedo tubes on either side of the superstructure.
21. Area where the floating crane TITAN (lifting capacity 50 tons) and a small floating crane are based. Another floating crane (lifting capacity 150 - 160 tons) is based in the Naval Harbor.
22. Floating fuel store. This is the tanker GROZNYI, approximately 8,000 tons gross. This vessel appears to be in a very dilapidated state and does not appear to be seaworthy. Fuel barges go alongside her and carry fuel farther to the Naval Harbor.
23. Position at which usually are lying one or two boats from which divers operate. Between Nos. (21) and (23) there are also a few small and very old naval vessels tied up, which never move away from the quay.
24. Steel road bridge.
25. Wooden road bridge.
26. Railway bridge.
27. Area in which fishing boats belonging to the State Fishing Enterprise Gosmorlov are based. These are of the ex-German KFK type, without guns. The Gosmorlov has some ten of these vessels in active service, and several more in Riga and Klaipeda undergoing repairs. These vessels are not employed by the Soviet Navy and are only used for fishing.
28. Warehouses. Occasionally a Soviet merchant ship ties up alongside the warehouse quay, and occasionally some naval tugs are tied up to this quay.
29. Concrete fence enclosing the warehouse and former Customs House.
30. Former Customs House, now an area headquarters for Soviet Navy and Frontier Guards.
31. Area where the pilot vessel MINOGA is moored, and the merchant tugs SATURNS, RIGA, and KR. VALDEMARS.
32. Area where the following Frontier Guard vessels are usually moored: four to six BOs, approximately ten MOs, and two to four MTBs, which are in appearance exactly the same as naval MTBs.
33. Wooden fence with barbed wire top.
34. Barbed wire fence surrounding the Fishing Harbor area.
- 34a. Area belonging to the Frontier Guards in which two radio masts are located. The approximate position of the radio masts is indicated by two small crosses on the plan.
35. Fuel base where fishing boats refuel.
36. Frontier Guard control point where fishing boats are checked before sailing.
37. Wooden watchtower approximately 20 meters high manned by Frontier Guards.
38. Part of brick fence surrounding the harbor in New Lepaya (Jaun Lepaya). The extent of this fence is not known.

SECRET/CONTROL - US OFFICIALS ONLY

SECRET/CONTROL - US OFFICIALS ONLY



25X1A

-4-

39. Naval patrols and sentries keeping civilians away from the docks.
40. Wooden fence surrounding the old forts and the sports ground.
41. Moat.
42. Area of the old forts which is believed to be used by the Soviet Navy as an ammunition store.
43. Gate to ammunition dump (see 42) at which naval sentries are posted.

Enclosure: Map of Lepaya
(State 9, Army 10, Navy 4, Air 4, OCD 14)

SECRET/CONTROL - US OFFICIALS ONLY